

IN THE CLAIMS:

1           1. A textured surface covering comprising:  
2           a) a pre-textured substrate and a layer overlying  
3           said pre-textured substrate;  
4           b) said layer comprising a melt processable polymer  
5           resin composition;  
6           c) said pre-textured substrate having a pre-textured  
7           surface,  
8           d) said layer having a first surface adjacent said  
9           pre-textured surface and a second surface spaced from said  
10          pre-textured surface; and  
11          e) said layer conforming to said pre-textured  
12          surface, whereby the first and second surfaces follow the  
13          contours of the pre-textured surface.

1           2. The textured surface covering of claim 1, wherein  
2           there are no visible bubbles entrapped between the first  
3           surface of the layer and the adjacent pre-textured surface.

1           3. The textured surface covering of claim 1, wherein  
2           the layer is substantially uniform in thickness.

1           4. The textured surface covering of claim 1, wherein  
2           the thickness of the layer varies less than about 25%.

1           5. The textured surface covering of claim 4, wherein  
2           the thickness of the layer varies less than about 20%.

1           6. The textured surface covering of claim 1, wherein  
2     the polymer resin composition comprises a general purpose  
3     polyvinyl chloride resin.

1           7. The textured surface covering of claim 1, wherein  
2     the pre-textured substrate is selected from the group  
3     consisting of a layer of a woven fibrous layer, a non-woven  
4     fibrous layer, an embossed layer, a layer comprising  
5     deposited matter and combinations thereof.

1           8. The textured surface covering of claim 7, wherein  
2     the embossed layer is chemically embossed, mechanically  
3     embossed, or chemically and mechanically embossed.

1           9. The textured surface covering of claim 7, wherein  
2     the deposited matter is selected from the group consisting  
3     of foamable ink, a non-foamable ink and particulate matter.

1           10. The textured surface covering of claim 1, wherein  
2     the pre-textured surface of the substrate has an area in  
3     which the difference in height of the pre-textured surface  
4     is at least about 1 mil vertical distance over no more than  
5     about 20 mils horizontal distance.

1           11. The textured surface covering of claim 10, wherein  
2     the difference in height of the pre-textured surface is at

3 least about 2 mils vertical distance over no more than about  
4 20 mils horizontal distance.

1 12. The textured surface covering of claim 11, wherein  
2 the difference in height of the pre-textured surface is at  
3 least about 5 mils vertical distance over no more than about  
4 20 mils horizontal distance.

1 13. The textured surface covering of claim 1, wherein  
2 the average thickness of the overlying layer is between  
3 about 2 mils and about 50 mils.

1 14. The textured surface covering of claim 13, wherein  
2 the average thickness of the overlying layer is between  
3 about 5 mils and about 30 mils.

1 15. The textured surface covering of claim 14, wherein  
2 the average thickness of the overlying layer is between  
3 about 10 mils and about 20 mils.

1 16. The textured surface covering of claim 1, wherein  
2 the viscosity of the melt processable composition during  
3 application to the pre-textured surface of the substrate is  
4 from about 4,500 to about 70,000 poise.

1 17. The textured surface covering of claim 16, wherein  
2 the viscosity of the melt processable composition is from  
3 about 10,000 to 50,000 poise.

1           18. The textured surface covering of claim 17, wherein  
2     the viscosity of the melt processable composition is from  
3     about 13,000 to about 24,000 poise.

1           19. A method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2     covering having a wear layer bonded thereto comprising the  
3     steps of:

4           a) heating a melt processable polymer resin  
5     composition to melt or soften the polymer resin composition;

6           b) applying the melted or softened melt processable  
7     polymer resin composition to a pre-textured surface of a  
8     substrate, the pre-textured surface having an area with a  
9     difference in height of at least about 1 mil vertical  
10    distance over no more than about 20 mils horizontal  
11    distance; and

12          c) cooling the melt processable polymer resin  
13    composition after it is applied to the pre-textured surface  
14    to form a bonded wear layer on the pre-textured substrate,  
15    the wear layer having an average thickness of between about  
16    2 mils to about 50 mils.

1           20. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2     covering according to claim 19, wherein the melt processable  
3     polymer resin composition is applied to the pre-textured  
4     substrate between a heated roll or drum and a conformable  
5     pressure roll.

1           21. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 19, wherein the melt processable  
3   polymer resin composition is heated on the roll of a  
4   calender.

1           22. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 21, wherein the melt processable  
3   polymer resin composition is formed into a layer in a  
4   calender prior to being applied to the pre-textured surface  
5   of the substrate.

1           23. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 19, wherein the melt processable  
3   polymer resin composition is heated in an extruder.

1           24. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 19, wherein the viscosity of the  
3   melt processable polymer resin composition is from about  
4   10,000 to about 50,000 poises during application to the pre-  
5   textured surface.

1           25. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 24, wherein the viscosity of the  
3   melt processable polymer resin composition is from about  
4   13,000 to about 24,000 poises during application to the pre-  
5   textured surface.

1           26. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 19, wherein the average  
3   thickness of the wear layer is between about 2 mils to about  
4   50 mils.

1           27. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 26, wherein the average  
3   thickness of said wear layer is between about 5 mils to  
4   about 50 mils.

1           28. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 27, wherein the average  
3   thickness of said wear layer is between about 10 mils to  
4   about 20 mils.

1           29. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 19, wherein the pre-textured  
3   surface of the substrate has an area in which the difference  
4   in height of the pre-textured surface is at least about 1  
5   mil vertical distance over no more than about 20 mils  
6   horizontal distance.

1           30. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2   covering according to claim 29, wherein the difference in  
3   height is at least about 2 mil vertical distance over no  
4   more than about 20 mils horizontal distance.

1           31. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2 covering according to claim 30, wherein the difference in  
3 height is at least about 5 mil vertical distance over no  
4 more than about 20 mils horizontal distance.

1           32. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2 covering according to claim 19 wherein the melt processable  
3 polymer resin composition has a viscosity of from about  
4 4,500 to 70,000 poises at the time of application to the  
5 pre-textured surface of the substrate

1           33. The method of manufacturing a textured surface  
2 covering according to claim 19 wherein the melt processable  
3 polymer resin composition is a general purpose resin.